

**AMENDMENT TO THE CLAIMS**

1. (currently amended) An active composition for an a  
positive electrode of an alkaline electrochemical cell,  
comprising:

a nickel hydroxide material; and

a binder comprising a pectin or a molasses.

Claim 2 (canceled)

Claim 3 (canceled)

4. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein  
said binder comprises said pectin.

5. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein  
said binder comprises said molasses.

6. (original) The active composition of claim 1, wherein  
said binder is between about 0.1 and 2.0 weight percent of  
said active material composition.

7. (currently amended) An A positive electrode for an alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:

an active composition including:

a nickel hydroxide material; and

a binder comprising a pectin or a molasses.

Claim 8 (canceled).

Claim 9 (canceled).

10. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder comprises said pectin.

11. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder comprises said molasses.

12. (original) The active composition of claim 7, wherein said binder is between about 0.1 and 2.0 weight percent of said active material composition.

13. (previously presented) An alkaline electrochemical cell, comprising:

at least one positive electrode;

at least one negative electrode; and

an alkaline electrolyte,  
said positive electrode having an active material  
composition including a nickel hydroxide material and a  
binder comprising a pectin or a molasses.

## Claim 14 (canceled)

15. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13,  
wherein said negative electrode comprises a hydrogen  
storage active material.

## Claim 16 (canceled)

17. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13,  
wherein said binder comprises said pectin.

18. (original) The electrochemical cell of claim 13,  
wherein said binder comprises said molasses.

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